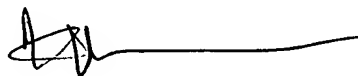


received in our office 11 April 2002. The German Search Report is less than three months old, and as such, the references cited herein should be considered as provided for under 37 CFR 1.97C.

Respectfully,



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